

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

The Speaker laid before the House, and had read, the following message from the Governor:

Executive Office,
Austin, Texas, May 19, 1933.

To the House of Representatives:

I herewith return you House Bill No. 762, involving the authority of the State Depository Board, which I have disapproved and vetoed. My reason for such action is that if this bill is allowed to become a law it would permit the State Depository Board to extend the time of payment of State funds deposited in State depositories when said funds are sorely needed by the State to pay its current obligations. It would permit banks that have been selected as depositories, to continue to fail, and refuse, to pay the State its funds which, under the present law, are made payable on demand, and to arbitrarily withhold said funds from the State.

It is not necessary to call names, but it is known that there are now two depository banks that have over four million dollars of State funds belonging to the General Revenue, Available School and Pension Funds, which said banks refuse now to pay to the State, and under the terms of this bill it is proposed to give the Depository Board authority to extend the time of payment of said funds to the State indefinitely. These depositories have refused to pay this money to the State for over two years, and if this law were to go into effect, they expect to further withhold the funds of the State.

At a time when the employes of the State are having to discount their warrants, and the credit of the State is being impaired, these depository banks should be required, and called on, to pay the State this needed money, and if payment is not made, then prompt action should be taken to realize on the securities deposited to secure the State's money.

Respectfully submitted,
MIRIAM A. FERGUSON,
Governor of Texas.